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THE EASTER RECESS.

THE old festival of Easter is usually passed now-a-days in gossip about the coming parliamentary campaign, and the present one has been no exception to the rule. Public men are rather in a quandary just now. On the one hand, there is a large body of them at best indifferent to the fate of the existing Ministry, and yet they shrink from coming to the scratch, and do not want to encounter the risks, the hubbub, and the delays of a dissolution, with all its "crises" to follow, and an utterly unprofitable session as the general upshot. Accordingly, both these folk and others are looking about to see how far they can stand the new India Bill, and whether for the sake of the country it cannot be licked into a reasonable shape. We intimated last week that we were disposed to make the most of it, and in fact our notion is that it should be treated as a snowball, which having been set going by one set of hands is rolled into due size and form by many. This is no prejudice of ours, for we treat all ministries alike, and give one set of statesmen the same fair play that we do to another. All we urge is, that after so much party confusion, and with a Parliament so chaotic, the country ought to try and get work done when there is any chance of it, and that an India Bill begun by a particular party may yet be passed, at last, with traces in it of the sense and principle of several parties. We, therefore, again apply ourselves to some points of the measure in the hope of helping the country to useful and practical results.

The great difficulty lies in the constitution of the Council. The presidentship is an inevitable affair—representing the Crown and Ministry, and superseding the old Board of Control. The Council, however, must represent far more various powers

—the Company's Directors, the knowledge and experience of Indian servants, and the general British-Indian public. Its real analogy (as we hinted last week) is with a Parliament. We may assume, finally, now, that the representative principle must enter into everything British. We cannot govern India by a Downing Street pacha. On the other hand, we are not satisfied with the old East India Company and its relation to our supreme powers; nor was it likely that we should be, after having broken, years ago, that monopoly of trade which was the foundation of the said Company's greatness. India, in fact, having been governed for the Crown by the Company, is now to be governed by the Crown itself—without losing whatever is best in the Company's traditions. Such is the problem which has to be met by the formation of the Council, and no wonder that it is a somewhat elaborate job to settle the details. It is hardly fair to object to a machinery which has most complex work to do, that it is a complex kind of machinery.

Of the number of the Council, we have still to say, that it is better than the number of Palmerston's bill. The interests are too great to be left to anything like a clique; yet eighteen is not a body too large for practical working. As it is, the bill leaves quite enough power in the hands of the executive. The nine nominees, with the president at their head, would always be able to carry their point; and, considering who they are to be, viz. civil and military officers, will be not very likely to show much fight against a minister of the Crown. They represent rather the practical experience and local knowledge to be got in India than the public interests, and are to the other nine what Downing Street and the Civil Service are to the House of Commons. But, then, it is hardly possible that occasions can often arise to

place the whole of one half of the Council against the entire other half. Were public bodies exposed to such dangers commonly, what would become of our own Lower House, which is divided into landed interests and trading interests, gentry and burghers, churchmen and dissenters, and so forth? The elected nine will be nearer the nation, the public, and the press, than their nominated brothers; and the real power is not always where the power established by law is. An obstinate section of the Council would soon set the world talking about another India Bill.

It seems hard to see—admitting that in such a case as that of governing India, the Crown ought to have the best of it—how we could do, now-a-days, without an elected body in the Council. This is the difficult part to manage, and it is in managing this that the new measure is most novel and intricate. The effort made is to carry into the organisation for ruling India something of the kind of machinery we use at home—meeting, thereby, the old complaint, that everything in India depended, not on all who were bound up with India, but on those alone who were parts of the Government service. We approve the general idea entirely; yet are we not quite content, any more than Mr. Bright, with the details of the plan. The five councillors elected by ten-pounders will be too different in their governing status from the others to please us. They, for example, will often be chosen from what we may call electioneering considerations, while the four other elected will represent special Indian interests. There is a risk, then, of their being either nobodies in the Council, or dangerous somebodies. Will they, as the chosen of five particular cities, all hit the feeling of the nation? or why, because in each of the said cities there are some



CHRISTIAN IN THE VALLEY OF HUMILIATION.—(FROM A PAINTING BY F. R. PICKERSGILL, A.R.A.)

when our cavalry arrived it was only to find the traces of his passage, and that they had been killed to keep their ears shut; and the investigation, the whole party, eleven in number, were taken. The place's party, continuing their flight across the Doab, cut the men of the two police stations, which is a strong collateral proof of the guilt of the men at the river side station, and got into Calpee in the morning. He is said to have obtained large levies of men, and to be paying soldiers at thirty rupees a month, and infantry at ten rupees a month.

EXTRAORDINARY CAPTURE OF A BATTERY.—In the battle fought on the 2nd of November, 1857, near Mundisore, Central India, by the force under command of Brigadier-General Stuart, the battery of artillery commanded by Captain Hungerford had for its escort a party of twenty men of the 15th Light Dragoons, headed by Lieut. Canine Martin, of the 1st Light Cavalry. The enemy, numbering 5,000 men, fought well, and with a very heavy loss, while that of the comparatively small British force was very severe also. During this action, Captain Hungerford, second Lieutenant Martin, with his twenty dragoons, to charge a battery of guns, advantageously posted by the enemy on a high bank in a village situated in the British front. The battery was accordingly charged and captured by this handful of men; but on a plain just behind the village, an overwhelming force of the enemy, infantry and cavalry, and which numbered in the hundreds, but yet faced about and fought its way back slowly and steadily on its supports, never running one step in its retrograde movement. Lieutenant Martin was shot through the thigh and disabled. We learn that he has been recommended for the Victoria Cross.

A LITTLE OFFICIAL BLUNDER.

Official correspondence respecting the capture of the Cagliari, recently captured, exhibits a remarkable blunder on the part of Sir James Hudson, the Minister at Turin, by which the Sardinian Government was led to believe that in its negotiations with that of Naples for the surrender of the Cagliari, it would receive the active support of England—a step which the Earl of Malmesbury declines to take.

The Earl of Malmesbury writes to Sir J. Hudson on March 13th, 1858:—"I have to instruct you to send immediately a copy of your letter to M. de la Roche, of the 5th of January, respecting the Cagliari. We only know of the existence from the Minister of Sardinia here, who gave us a copy three days ago. You will state at the same time on what authority you say in it that 'Her Majesty's Government are disposed to object to the Neapolitan proceedings in regard to the pursuit and capture of the vessel.'"

Sir James Hudson replies, that on investigation he finds that in the draft of his letter to M. Cavour he had not said that "her Majesty's Government were disposed to object," &c.; but that an attaché, Mr. Eskine, who transmitted the note from the draft, had made the insertion. Mr. Eskine acknowledges, in a letter to Sir James Hudson, that he made "a very material alteration" in the wording of the note, assuming all blame of having committed the blunder, and accounts for it by the difficulty one experiences in transcribing a paper of his own composition.

The Ambassador, however, does not offer to shelter himself under the shadow of Mr. Eskine's "blunder," nor does Lord Malmesbury hold out any encouragement to do so. His Lordship replies, "I have to state to you that your explanation is unsatisfactory, and that Mr. Eskine's conduct, in making so material an alteration in the sense of your letter, without calling your attention to it, is quite inexcusable, and so you will inform him by my direction."

This "blunder" led to rather curious results. Relying upon the unauthorised passage in Sir James Hudson's note, the Sardinian ambassador in London was formally charged "to request the concurrence, and, if need be, the co-operation of the British Government, to bring this important affair to a successful termination." This was on the 22nd ult. Then it was that the Sardinian Government was informed that the expression in Sir James Hudson's note of January 5, that "her Majesty's Government are disposed to object" was unauthorised, and the result of inadvertence, for which the Secretary of Legation had been reprimanded. The Marquis d'Azeglio replies with Italian courtesy that he does not consider himself in any way authorised to make the slightest remark upon the importance of a misunderstanding of this sort. Mr. Eskine's blunder, of which he received the first intimation from his Excellency in his interview the day before yesterday. Its importance can only be equalled by that which an assertion so positive, coming from her Britannic Majesty's representative, must have had in the councils of the Government of the King. At the same time, "facts ought to be taken into consideration rather than documents," and "at all events, it abandoned to its own resources, the King's Government has fully decided to follow up this affair with the prudence and moderation which have characterised its policy hitherto, but also with the energy and firmness which the feeling of duty and the national dignity inspire."

ORSINI TO THE EMPEROR.

A DOCUMENT which purports to be the last letter of Orsini to Louis Napoleon was published, on the 31st ult., in the official "Gazette" of Turin. Whence it was obtained is unknown, but it is conjectured to have been communicated by the French Government.

"TO HIS MAJESTY NAPOLEON III., EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

"SIR:—Your Imperial Majesty having permitted that my letter written to you on the 11th of February should be produced for public comment, whilst I have had proof of your generosity, shows me also that the prayers which I have offered on behalf of my country find a response in your own heart; and hence, however near I be to death, it is certainly no small consolation to see her Imperial Majesty moved by genuine Italian feelings.

"In a few hours I shall cease to live; and so, before drawing my last vital breath, I wish it to be known, and I declare it with the frankness and candour which up to this day I have never belied, that assassination, in whatever form it may be disguised, does not enter amongst my principles, although by a fatal error of mind I have allowed myself to be led on to commit the crime of the 14th of January. No political assassination was not my system, and I committed it at the risk of my own life, both in my system, and by my public acts, when a governmental mission placed me in a situation to do so.

"And my compatriots—far from putting faith in the system of assassination, let them reject it altogether and hold it dead; and let them know, even by the voice of a dying patriot, that their redemption must be won by their own self-denial, by constant unity in their efforts and sacrifices, and by the exercise of true virtue—gifts which are now heaping in the young and active portion of my fellow-countrymen, and gifts which shall will be the to make Italy free, independent, and worthy of that glory with which our ancestors have made her illustrious.

"I do, but whilst I do so with calmness and dignity, I wish that my memory may not be left stained with any crime.

"As for the victims of the 14th of January, I offer my own blood as an atonement, and I beg the Italians, when some day they are made independent, to give a worthy compensation to all those who have suffered any injury from it.

"Let your Imperial Majesty permit me, in the last place, to beg you to spare the life, not of myself, but of the two accomplices who were condemned to die with me.

"I am, with the profoundest respect for your Imperial Majesty,

"Prison of La Roquette, March 11. (Signed) FRANCES ORSINI."

With this letter was published Orsini's will, in which he desires that after the expenses of his trial are paid out of the money seized from him at the time of his arrest, a gold watch and chain shall be bought and presented to his advocate, M. Jules Favre; they are to be of the value of 800 francs at least. It also directs that his body was to be taken to London, to be buried in the cemetery where Ugo Foscolo was laid, and by his side. "After these expenses are paid, I will that the remainder of the money be sent to my uncle, Oreste Orsini, or to my brother, Leonidas Orsini, both residing together at Inola, Roman States, Italy, who must dispose of it only for the benefit of my two little girls, Ernestina and Ida Orsini, residing at Nice, Sardinian States, Italy." These, his daughters, are further bequeathed, the former to Mr. G. D. P. Hodges of Glastonbury, the other to Mr. Peter Stuart, of Liverpool. All his property, in clothing, books, &c., are bequeathed to Miss Eliza Chetwynd, residing in Kentish Town: "All that I have done for her is but a very humble and very small token of remembrance of the extreme kindness and devotedness which she has shown me on all occasions. I recommend to my friends in England this honest and virtuous lady."

It is reported at Turin that the Empress of the French offered to take him under her special protection, but that the uncle of Orsini, who enjoys both wealth and position in the Roman States, had treated the proposal with indignation.

A SPIRITUAL REVIVAL IN AMERICA.

One of the religious convulsions which shake communities periodically, in which the believer sees the finger of Providence, and which the unbeliever finds it difficult to account for on sound psychological principles, is now agitating, not New York alone, but the whole Northern States. It began with the commercial revival of last year, which threw out of employment many young men of active life, but with minds untrained to anything except business. Their previous habits stimulated excitement, and made it a necessity. They were in constant excitement for the sake of material enjoyment; and when the clock for business took away the means for these things, they were more ready to listen to exciting topics of a less objectionable nature. Perhaps this is as philosophical a way as the circumstances allow of accounting for a very extraordinary moral phenomenon. The present "revival," as this intense religious excitement is technically called by those best acquainted with its operations, began in small meetings called in almost the only church remaining in the business part of New York, to be held daily during the hour usually devoted to the unsocial lunch. They were first held in a small vestry-room. This soon overflowed, and larger quarters were demanded; then other churches began to open their doors. The feeling extended from the business quarters of the men to the fashionable quarters occupied by the other sex. The weekly meetings became semi-weekly, the semi-weekly then daily, the daily almost continuous; and at last, finding the churches too small for the numbers, a vacant theatre has been put to uses that must have astonished the musty properties which still occupy the stage. Here at twelve o'clock, under the very shadow of the City Hall, and in the centre of business, excited crowds meet to pray and exhort. Before the hour of meeting the building is crowded to its utmost capacity—every bit of standing-ground is occupied, and hundreds are turned away. (The latter find their way into a vacant tinpling-shop and oyster saloon, and commence singing hymns.) The moment the big bell of the City Hall is struck for the hour of noon, the leader, who shifts with each day's performance, rises and calls a hymn. The congregation join in singing without accompaniment. The air is a simple one, and as they sing in excellent time the effect is impressive. While this goes on you look about; the building is lighted with gas; the only aperture for daylight is through the door. The curtain is dropped upon the stage. In front of it are a table and three chairs—the latter filled by the leader and two others—like the Anabaptists in the "Prophète." On the one side you see a placard asking all young men to feel at home, and to join in the exercises; on the other side a notice that all controverted points will be excluded, and that no person can be allowed to pray and exhort upon the same day; and in the centre a warning that three minutes are allotted time for each, and that the inexorable leader will "call time." When the singing is over, the leader, who seems to be exempt from the operation of all these rules, prays; then reads from the Bible, and then prays again. Meanwhile, the audience are passing up mysterious pieces of paper to the stage. The mystery is explained when the leader takes them in his hand and reads them. They are petitions for remembrance in the prayers and exhortations of the meetings. An aged widow asks prayer for her impudent son; two clerks for a fellow-clerk, whose mind had been awakened the day before. The blessings of Heaven are invoked upon "the liquor-dealers, and rum-sellers," that they may see the error of their ways. A wife asks that her husband may be remembered; a husband for a wife and their children. Few of the multitude asks prayers for themselves. One newly-married couple acknowledge gratitude for their conversion. Only one contrite sinner confesses how heavily the load of his sins weighs upon him. When these are read, and another hymn is sung, the leader announces the meeting open; a dozen spring to their feet, but one taller and stouter, and with stronger lungs than his competitors, and whose years show that he has had greater experience, shouts louder than any one "Let us pray," and the other voices are silent while he pours forth a torrent of intercessions. He exhorts his three minutes; a fourth goes, and you wonder whether he is to go on. "Time!" says the leader, quietly from the stage, and down sinks the prophet of the moment, to be succeeded by another and another, until the hour is exhausted, when the multitude depart, many of whom go through the same scene again and again before the day is over.

This excitement is not confined to New York. All the local journals are full of it—how many were "awakened" here, "converted" there, or "baptised" in another place.

DISASTERS AT SEA.

ON THE COAST.

SATURDAY'S advices at Lloyd's furnished a list of serious casualties which occurred on the north-east coast, during a heavy gale, on Thursday and Friday morning. It commenced from the northward and veered to N.E., blowing in heavy squalls with rain.

Between Flamborough Head and the Tees the weather was exceedingly bad, and several vessels were driven ashore. A sad catastrophe happened off Scarborough on Thursday morning. A boat in which were several men, supposed to be four or five, was observed to be endeavouring to make for the harbour. The gale was at its height, and a very heavy sea was running. The boat had approached within a mile or so of the shore, when it capsized, and the whole of the unfortunate fellows who were in it perished. The unfortunate men are supposed to have formed the crew of a coasting vessel, which foundered during the gale. On the same morning, near the Tees lighthouse, the schooner Kingston, from the Tyne, was driven ashore; and at Staithes, in the neighbourhood, another schooner, the Sterwell, belonging to Whitby, sunk.

The most serious loss, however, as regards property, was the wreck of the London and Newcastle screw steamer Rosedale, on the Longspear rocks, near Hartlepool. Here on Friday morning she went to pieces; her loss is valued at £20,000. The life-boat was specially put out, and succeeded in rescuing the crew of the ill-fated steamer.

The more northern coast appears to have experienced as severe weather at the same time. The accounts from St. Andrews state that it blew a terrific gale, almost amounting to a hurricane, from the N.E., with hail and sleet. On the previous night, the fine ship *Burley*, almost a new vessel, nearly 800 tons burden, bound for M. Bourne with a valuable general cargo, was wrecked at the mouth of the Tay harbour. *Daniel*, her crew, endeavoured to put to sea, when she struck on the Tay bar with such violence that she speedily tilted, the officers and crew being obliged to abandon her. At the foot the ship was carried ashore near Rancroft, where she became a wreck. She belonged to the port of Dundee, and her loss will exceed £20,000.

The American line ship *Petra* from Havre for New York, with on board the number of 217, French and German, and a general cargo, got on shore on Sunday morning, at half-past two, on the shore off the harbour of Chichester, or "Chichester Pool," wind at the time blowing fresh and weather thick. On striking, the captain adopted the usual measures of backing sail, &c., with the view of easing her off, but to no purpose, as she took the shoal at high tide and struck heavily, and the fall left her embedded in the strand. All the passengers were landed, to the number of 230 souls, without accident.

The *Express*, of New York, from Liverpool to Newport, went ashore at Wicklow-head. Two of the hands were drowned. The *Exchange* also went ashore at Wicklow-head, and went to pieces. Crew, except cook and second mate, saved.

ABROAD.

The steam-jacket *Myrtus*, of the Messageries Impériales Company, was wrecked in the Black Sea on the 5th of March, on some rocks half a mile to the north of Komassina. The crew and passengers were saved, but all attempts to raise the vessel failed.

The *Cape* papers report the wreck of the French ship *Auguste* in St. Francis Bay. She was quite a new vessel, and was on her homeward voyage from St. Denis to Marseilles, with a cargo of sugar and general merchandise. Nothing extraordinary happened until the morning of the 22nd inst., when, about three a.m., at a time when the captain thought he was some thirty or forty miles from land, the vessel struck the outermost reef of rocks W.S.W. of St. Francis Bay, and gradually drifted in further to the shore. All hands remained on board until five o'clock, when the order was given to get out the boat. This was accomplished, and two men had already got into it, when a heavy sea struck the ship, causing her to part from the reef, which effected a landing about two miles to the westward. Almost immediately after, the vessel broke up, and parted from under her crew. An attempt was made to reach the shore by swimming, and out of seventeen men, eight, including the captain, succeeded in gaining the beach. The others were taken off.

IRELAND.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.—The other night two shots were fired into the house of a Catholic, named Kennedy, living near Geneva, fortunately without the effect desired by the assassins. Kennedy was in bed, and his wife seated at the fire. The contents of one of the weapons struck the wall immediately over the bed; had the assassins fired somewhat lower, the effect might have been fatal to Kennedy.

SCOTLAND.

ABANDONED.—A few days since some boys found on Balmashanner Hill, near Forter, the naked body of an infant wrapped in a petticoat. The dead body of a second child was found within a few yards of the first, wrapped up in a blue flannel petticoat. It is suspected that the children were twins.

RIOT IN A CHURCHYARD.—The friends of two persons named Whitecross, buried in the parochial burying-ground of Clackmannan, desired to remove the remains to the new cemetery at that place; and the sextons of Clackmannan refusing to aid them, gravediggers from Alloa were called upon for assistance. The men were allowed to commence their work (at night), without molestation, but they had not proceeded far before the people assembled began to express their opinions in howling and cursing. Presently stones were thrown, then loaded fire-arms were discharged in the churchyard. From regard to their own personal feeling, and owing to the great disadvantage of working in the dark, the party from Alloa now got out of the ground with all speed, amid the execrations of the populace. The boxes they brought with them to contain the coffins were seized and burned; the town-bell was set a-ringing, and a general uproar ensued. Next day, under the protection of a police force, the two coffins were quietly transferred from the old to the new burial-ground.

THE PROVINCES.

MURDER IN LIVERPOOL.—Michael Wacey, an American seaman, stabbed a Dutch shoemaker to the heart, last week, at a casino in Blundell Street, Liverpool, after a good deal of altercation and scuffling. The wounded man died almost immediately, and the American then commenced an indiscriminate attack on all the other persons present, one of whom he stabbed in four places. Escaping into the street, he was secured by a policeman, and has been committed for trial.

ANOTHER SUSPECTED CASE OF POISONING IN SUSSEX.—Much excitement prevails in the village of Alestion in consequence of the death of an inhabitant under circumstances which have led to the suspicion that he was poisoned. The deceased was a labourer, named Stephen Boys, who only survived his wife a few days. The inquest is adjourned, that Professor Taylor may make a post mortem examination.

AN OLD TRICK FOR A CONJUROR.—Signor Bosco, the well-known conjuror, was on Saturday brought before the magistrates at Manchester, charged with attempting self-destruction on the previous day by throwing himself into a pool of water. The Signor explained that he lived very unhappily with his wife, who was very ill-tempered, and was only trying a "new trick," to frighten his better half into better behaviour for the future. On promising not to renew the attempt, he was discharged from custody.

EXECUTION AT YORK.—Joseph Shepherd, who murdered Bethel Parkinson, on Wadsworth Moor, was hanged on Saturday. He seems to have died a hardened man. On the night before his execution, when exhorted to pray for his salvation, he laughed and said, "If there's to rest for me in the next world, I might as well have as much rest here as I can while I stop." It was reported to him that if he did not repent of his sins, he would surely go to hell. The wretched man answered, "Never mind, I shall be all right in the snowy weather; I shall be right during one half-year, when the weather's cold." He walked away quietly to the scaffold, and he appeared determined to meet his fate with perfect coolness. On coming through an office in which there is a clock, Shepherd pointed to the small index, which stood at six, and remarked, "When that gets to the top, I shall be done for; it will be all over then." On dressing himself, he was full of joke and fun, and he laughed as he was conducted across the castle yard. When he arrived in the apartment adjoining the scaffold, he threatened that when he was on the drop, if he had the chance, he would knock Jack Ketch over. However, when he arrived at the scaffold, he had the grace to repent several times. "Lord, have mercy on me!" When the bolt was withdrawn, the unhappy man struggled very much for a short time. To the last he declared himself innocent of Parkinson's death, though he acknowledged that he deserved to be hanged.

SKIPTON IN THE 19TH CENTURY.—A young man, named Knowles, twenty-three years of age, was examined as a witness before the magistrates of Skipton (Yorkshire) on Saturday. On entering the witness-box, he seized a small Testament for the purpose of being sworn. He was asked by the bench whether he knew what the book was? "It's a Bible." "How do you know?" "Cos I've seen one afore." "Have you ever heard of the New Testament?" "Nay." "Do you know what it is?" "Nay." "Have you ever been to church?" "Sometime, in the afternoon." "What do they do at church?" "Read something." "Do you know what?" "Nay." "What will be the consequence if you don't speak the truth?" "Don't know what you mean." "What will God do to you if you don't speak the truth?" "Don't know." "Shall you be punished?" "Nay."—Of course the witness was not examined.

LIVERPOOL COMMERCIAL STATISTICS.—The Liverpool Customs revenue for the quarter ending March 31 amounted to £267,834, showing an increase, as compared with the same quarter of 1857, of £67,896. For the year ended March 31, the revenue receipts amounted to £3,679,463, showing a decrease on the year of £291,721.

FATAL ACCIDENT IN SHORHAM HARBOUR.—Mr. King, foreman of the harbour works at Shorham, possessed a strong passion for aquatic sports, and had taken great pains in the construction of a boat, with which he intended to compete for the prizes given at the annual Shorham Regatta. Good Friday was the day fixed for the trial trip. Accompanied by Dinwiddie, a seaman, and a harbour pilot, named Matthews, he embarked. A stiff breeze was blowing at the moment of embarkation, and when the party had cleared the wharf and reached the opposite point at what is called the Saltings, the pilot cautioned Dinwiddie against straining the boat beyond her powers, and advised him to luff. Dinwiddie replied, "Oh, let her go, let her go." A few minutes afterwards, a small caught her, and sent both the owner and helmsman to eternity. Matthews, who is noted for his obesity, and for the "hair-breadth escapes" he has had in the Channel, swam, or rather rolled, to a shoal place in the river, where he remained up to his armpits in the water until a boat came and brought him ashore.

HEAVY THUNDERSTORM IN EAST LANCASHIRE.—A tremendous thunderstorm broke over the East Lancashire district on Saturday. The thunder-claps were so heavy, and the lightning so potent, that many houses were sensibly shaken. The factory chimney belonging to a woollen manufacturer at Cragg was considerably damaged. A farmer at Edgcliffe, named John Clarke, was thrown down by the electric shock. He had two horses only twelve yards distant, one of which was blinded in one eye; the other horse was killed on the spot, without the slightest external evidence of injury. A heavy fall of rain, with wind, succeeded the thunderstorm.

THE WRONG MATE.—A few days ago, a couple residing in the neighbourhood of Brilstone, Devon, went to the parish church to be married. The bridegroom, instead of taking his intended bride at the church door and accompanying her to the altar, walked with the bride's sister, who was one of the bridesmaids. The bride appeared to have thought that her intended husband had changed his mind at the last moment, and she retired into a pew, in a very dejected state of mind. The ceremony proceeded, and it was not until the clergyman came to the important question, "Wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife?" that the bridegroom was conscious of his mistake. He then looked round the church with astonishment, and exclaimed, "This is the wrong maid, sir!" The right maid was soon found; the ceremony was again commenced, and she was married to the right man—to the satisfaction of all parties.

INDIAN RAJAH AND ESCORT.

On the next page we have engraved another scene of Oriental life—an Indian rajah, on his way to pay a visit of ceremony. On such occasions the Indian princes make a great display. The elephants with their gold and crimson housings, and richly-gilded howdahs, look very imposing, and the numerous horse and foot retainers who accompany them, help to make up a pageant that Mr. Cooke, of Astley's, might imitate with pecuniary advantage. The foreground of the picture is occupied by a group of fakirs, who are sure to crowd about the palace of an Indian prince.

MIRIAM, LOUISE DE CORNILLIE, great granddaughter of the great Cornillie, recently died at Aigues-Mortes.

THE RESIGNATION OF MR. TOWNSEND, who is again declared bankrupt, is anticipated.

SIR E. BELMONT LYTTON, who for many years represented the city of Lincoln in Parliament, visited that city last week, and on the evening of Monday delivered a lecture on the early history of the Eastern nation, especially the empires of the Old Testament.



AN INDIAN RAJAH AND HIS ESCORT.

THE RIGHT HON. SIR GEORGE HAMILTON SEYMOUR, G.C.B.

This diplomatist, whose private conversations with the Emperor Nicholas so surprised the world on their publication in 1854, is the son of the late Lord George Seymour, and was educated at Oxford. He entered the public service as attaché to the embassy at the Hague in 1817, and was in the Foreign Office as précis writer from 1819 to 1821. In the following year, he was private secretary in the Foreign Office, and in 1822 attended the Duke of Wellington on a special mission to Verona. He has been Secretary of Embassy at Frankfurt, Stuttgart, Berlin, and Constantinople. He represented his sovereign at the Court of Tuscany in 1830, at that of Belgium in 1836, and of Portugal in 1846. In 1851 he was sent to St. Petersburg. The consummate skill by which, without for a moment deviating from a straightforward course, he led the Czar from confession to confession, thus unmasking the secret designs of Russia respecting Turkey, has been often commended. In Sir Hamilton's secret and confidential despatches of January 11th and 22nd, February 21st and 22nd, and March 6th, the British Government had a kind of daguerreotype of the Emperor's mind. "The Turkish Empire," said the Emperor again and again, "is falling to pieces: if it falls, it falls to rise no more. I will not allow a pistol to be fired. Is it not better to be provided beforehand for the contingency than to incur the certainty of a European war?" Sir Hamilton Seymour's own warnings were added. He wrote to Lord John Russell: "A sovereign who insists with such pertinacity upon the impending fall of a neighbouring state must have settled in his own mind that the hour, if not of, at least for, its dissolution was at hand." In these communications, the British Government received full warning from its Ambassador of the perils that menaced the peace of Europe. Sir Hamilton Seymour left St. Petersburg, at the express desire of the Russian Government, several weeks before the declaration of war. He received the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath in 1847, having been made a Knight Bachelor and Grand Cross of the Order of Hanover in the previous year. In the autumn of 1855 he was appointed Ambassador to Vienna, in succession to the Earl of Westmoreland, and sworn in as a member of the Privy Council; and in the December following he proceeded to his new post.

Here he remained, to the perfect satisfaction of his own Government and that of Vienna, until



SIR H. SEYMOUR, G.C.B., THE LATE BRITISH MINISTER AT VIENNA.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.)

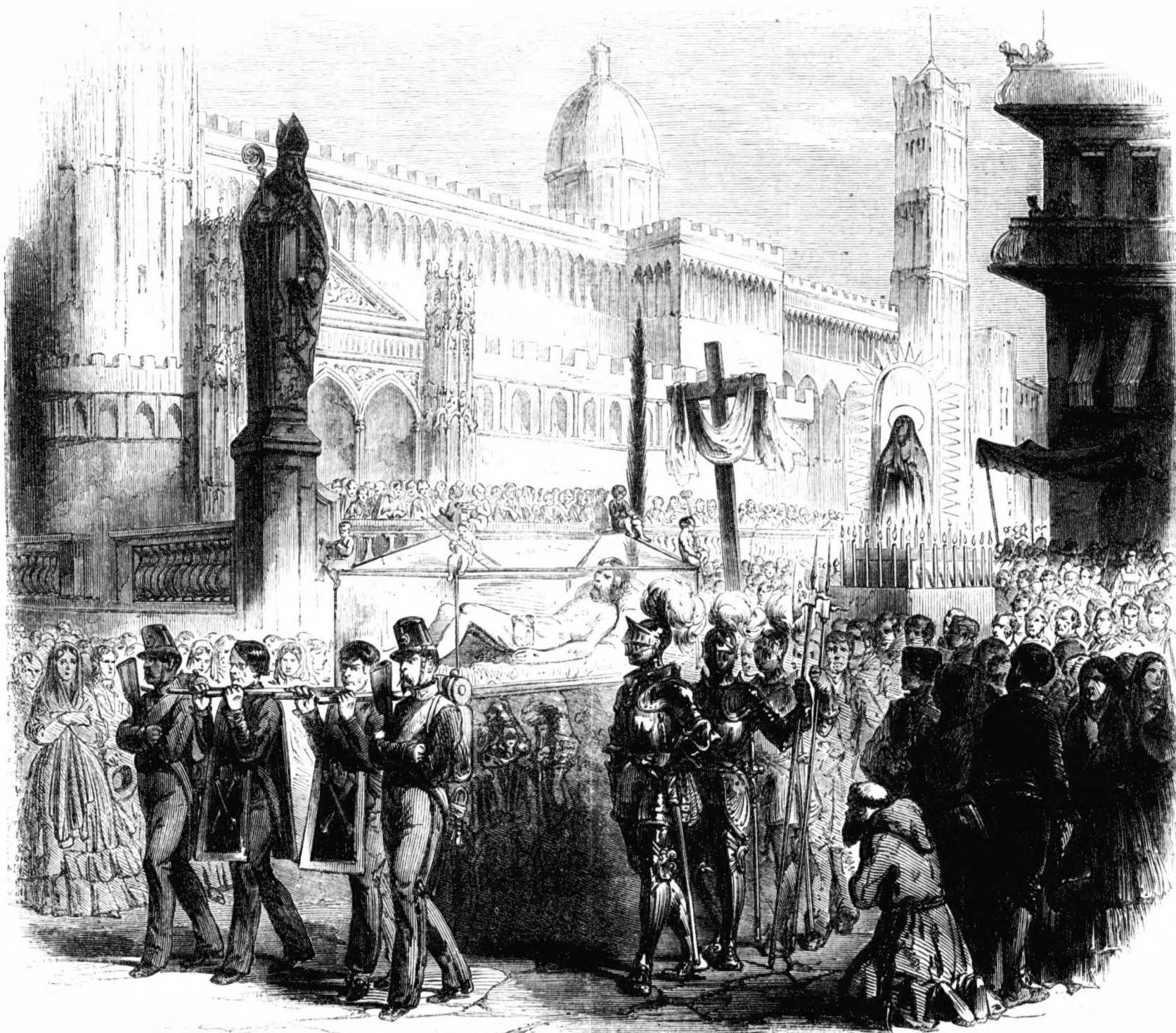
the news of Lord Palmerston's fate reached him, when he resigned. We believe, however, that his resignation is unconnected with party considerations. The fact seems to be, that Sir Hamilton seeks rest and retirement (at least for awhile) from his long official labours. Perhaps the great expense of the English mission at Vienna has also furnished a motive for Sir Hamilton's resignation.

RELIGIOUS PROCESSION AT PALERMO ON GOOD FRIDAY.

In every Catholic country there is some peculiar ceremony at Easter time, and perhaps the most striking is that which is yearly performed at Palermo on Good Friday. This ceremony is a solemn one, and is conducted with seemingly great devoutness. A painted figure representing Christ after crucifixion is placed on a stretcher under a glass case, the top of which is ornamented with six small gilded figures, bearing each an object representing instruments used at the crucifixion of the Saviour. The stretcher is carried on the shoulders of four men, preceded by two soldiers with arms reversed, and supported by six knights, three on each side. Immediately behind follows the cross, fixed on a small car and drawn by the choristers of the cathedral of Palermo. After the cross comes a painted figure of the Virgin, which is followed by the archbishop and his clergy. Nearly the whole population of the city crowd the streets to witness the procession, which, in spite of its theatrical effect, is very imposing, and has a tendency to work upon the feelings of the people. As the procession passes, monks may be seen on their knees at prayer, while others of their order solicit alms from the spectators, the money collected being afterwards distributed to the poor, who daily crowd round the doors of the religious houses.

During the whole day not a single carriage is to be seen in the streets; all the shops are shut; and those who throughout the year have never been to mass now crowd the churches to humiliate themselves before the image of Him whose precepts they have perhaps too little regarded.

Palermo has many points of interest, however, besides its religious ceremonies. It is regarded as the second capital of the kingdom of the Two Sicilies; is built in the form of an amphitheatre, facing the sea; and enclosed by an old wall. Next the sea is the strong fort of Castellamare. The city is ornamented by nu-



RELIGIOUS PROCESSION ON GOOD FRIDAY AT PALERMO.

innumerable fountains, and has many handsome edifices. The port is enclosed by a mole 1,300 feet in length, terminated by a lighthouse and a battery; a second interior harbour being reserved for the Royal Marine, Palermo is the residence of the military commandant of the island; has an arsenal and shipbuilding yard, and carries on a considerable import and export trade. Originally founded by the Phœnicians, Palermo became the capital of the Carthaginian possessions in Sicily. It was taken by the Romans 150 B.C.; was afterwards the principal position of the Saracens on the island; from them it was wrested by the Normans; and in 1282 was the scene of the massacre called the "Sicilian Vespers." Here the Neapolitan Court resided from 1806 till that branch of the Bourbons were restored to the throne of Naples, by the aid of the British, in 1815.

REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The report of the Postmaster-General for 1857 has appeared. From this document it appears that last year the number of post-offices in the United Kingdom was increased by 235, making the whole present number 11,291. One hundred and thirty-eight new money-order offices were opened, viz., 95 in England and Wales, 9 in Ireland, and 34 in Scotland; making the whole number 2,235. Notwithstanding the depression of trade during a large part of last year, there was no falling off in the number of money orders, but, on the contrary, a considerable increase, though not so great as in many previous years.

During the last year 59 additional towns were provided with day mails to or from the metropolis of one or other of the three parts of the United Kingdom, and some of them with mails in both directions. The distance over which mails are now conveyed within the United Kingdom by railways, mail coaches, &c., steam packets, boats, and foot passengers, is nearly 130,000 miles per day.

Measures are in progress for still further improving the postal service in the suburban district. These measures include an acceleration of the general post letters arriving in London by the night mails; the extension to all places within six or seven miles of London (isolated houses and scattered neighbourhoods excepted) of a late evening delivery, so that letters leaving the London office about 7.30 P.M. may reach the hands of the public the same night; and an earlier morning collection. The system of postal divisions in London is still, owing to the want of offices, only in very partial operation. In some districts no suitable building, or even site, has yet been found; and in others unforeseen obstacles have arisen to retard the completion of the arrangements, even when considerable progress had been made.

The following shows the number of letters delivered in the United Kingdom during the last year, with the rate of increase, and the proportion of letters to population:—

	Number of Letters in 1857.	Increase per cent. on number in 1856.	Proportion of letters to population.
England.....	410 millions	About 5½	21 to each person.
Ireland.....	43 "	" 2½	7 "
Scotland.....	51 "	" 7	16 "
United Kingdom....	504 "	" 5½	17 "

At Leeds the proportion is as high as 24 letters to each person; at Glasgow and Birmingham 27, at Liverpool 29, in Dublin and Manchester 30, in Edinburgh 36, and in London 43.

As compared with 1856, this number shows an increase of 26 millions; and as compared with the year previous to the introduction of penny postage (1839), an increase (omitting franks) of 428 millions; making the present number of letters more than sixfold what it was in 1839.

The number of registered letters last year was rather more than a million and a quarter, or about one registered letter to 400 ordinary letters. The number of newspapers was, as in the previous year, about 71,000,000. There were about 6,000,000 of book packets last year. The average weight of a book packet is about five ounces and a half, and the average postage about 2½d.

The rate of increase in the gross revenue in the two years was as follows:—1856—England nearly 6 per cent.; Ireland nearly 5 per cent.; Scotland nearly 7 per cent. 1857—England more than 6 per cent.; Ireland about 2½ per cent.; Scotland about 6½ per cent. The increase of expenditure properly appertaining to the year in 1857 was at the rate of nearly 2½ per cent., as compared with 4½ per cent. in 1856.

The net revenue, taken as the difference between the gross revenue and expenditure properly appertaining to the year, is as follows:—1856—£1,194,398. 1857—£1,322,237. Increase—£127,840. This increase is at the rate of rather more than 10 per cent. as compared with per cent. in 1856.

AN EXTRAORDINARY RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

An extraordinary railway accident occurred on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway on Thursday week. The train, which had only one first-class carriage attached to it, had proceeded a short distance from Manchester, when it was perceived that the first-class carriage made frequent "jumps." The jumping seemed to increase with the velocity of the train, and when the passengers arrived at the next station the attention of the station-master was drawn to the carriage. He merely looked at the number of the vehicle, and said, jocosely, "Oh, it's the notorious carriage! But you're all right enough!" and at that moment the train was again set in motion. The oscillation of the carriage now became so alarming that the passengers made an effort to stop the train. A solicitor blew a dog-whistle, a counsellor shouted; and shortly after, when between Penistone and Wortley, the carriage dashed off the line, snapping the coupling-chains by which it was attached to the carriages behind it. The engine, suddenly relieved of so much weight, bounded forward at an increased velocity, and the first-class carriage which had been thrown off the rails was dragged on again for upwards of half a mile. It had lost its hind wheels; the springs were smashed, and so the carriage went bumping along, to the terror and injury of the passengers. When the coupling chains broke, the carriages behind (a second-class carriage and the brake van) crossed the space between the two sets of rails, and being upset there, were suddenly brought to rest. The passengers, eight in number, were thrown one against another, and several received severe contusions. The train was thus broken into three parts—the hinder blocking the up line; the middle running frightfully fast by its own impetus (the rails are on a decline here), and oscillating most fearfully from the broken carriage at the back; while the front, with the engine, pursued its way at a greatly accelerated speed. It was not until the engine had run three-quarters of a mile that the driver dared to pull up; after that distance, he saw by the lights that the middle portion had brought itself to a stand, and there being no more danger of being run into, he checked his speed. One of the passengers, Mr. Eadon, an auctioneer, of Sheffield, in his fear of being carried into the Outhwaite Tunnel, jumped out of the train whilst it was in motion, and being thrown to the ground, was seriously bruised. Mr. Roberts, another of the passengers, who was in the partially overturned second-class carriage, had two extraordinary escapes. The first great jerk flung him upon the top of the handle of an umbrella held by a Mr. Rowbottom, who sat opposite, and very nearly impaled him, some of his clothes being broken through by the force with which he alighted on the umbrella top. A second, and equally strong jerk, flung him from the umbrella, and threw him arid on one of the doors (the glass sash being down), and there he was found, wholly unable to extricate himself from his strange and painful position. Mr. Roberts was only slightly injured.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—A report to the Lords of the Privy Council for Trade shows that last year 286 persons were killed and 738 injured on the roads of the United Kingdom. Of these, 93 were killed and 19 hurt who were neither passengers nor employees; 93 killed and 73 hurt who were employees of the companies; and 48 killed and 645 injured as passengers; six persons were suicides; 54 were killed and 14 hurt while trespassing, and 25 were killed and 5 injured at level crossings. Of the passengers, 25 were killed and 631 hurt from causes beyond their own control, while 23 were killed and 15 hurt from their own culpable want of caution. Out of 81 accidents reported on last year, in only eight cases were they solely attributable to causes which could not have been guarded against, and in only 16 cases did such causes contribute to the accidents. Negligence of inferior servants, neglect of works, non-enforcement of rules, and insufficiency of appliances for safety, are the great causes of all railway accidents, and these of course may and should be obviated.

THE MINISTERS AT GUILDHALL.

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress entertained a numerous company, including the principal members of her Majesty's Ministry, in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House, on Easter Monday, according to old custom. On ordinary occasions the assemblage invited to partake of the hospitality of the Chief Magistrate of the metropolis is a purely festive gathering; but the banquet of Monday evening possessed unusual interest from the circumstance that it afforded the new Government an opportunity of making their first public appearance without the walls of Parliament. The Duke of Cambridge was also present, and replied to the toast, "The Army," in terms which he has frequently used of late. He warned his hearers:—

"That a great power like that to which we belong can never exist without being noble, even in the midst of the greatest seeming poverty, to serious dangers. It is at all times a matter well worthy of our best attention, how our army and navy can be constantly kept in a state of the highest efficiency. Don't let me suppose that it is necessary to be extravagant. Extravagance is not desirable nor even advantageous; but the efficiency of its military and naval establishments is an imperative necessity for the safety of any great empire."

In proposing the health of her Majesty's Ministers, the Lord Mayor declared that for his part "it had always been his prayer, as it was now his pride, that when he became the head of the city of London he might have the honour of entertaining the Earl of Derby as Prime Minister of England. He was thankful that his prayer had been answered, for he most sincerely believed that the Conservatives would save the country."

Lord Derby, in replying to the toast of this devoted Lord Mayor, spoke chiefly of India and the future government of India. First he gave praise to the East India Company:—

"Let me say here that, although an outcast in the earlier portion of its history, and, perhaps, even at some later periods, there may have been acts committed with regard to India which will not bear the strictest examination according to the severe rules of political morality, yet upon the whole there never was a government which for so long a time displayed so much power, so much ability, made so admirable a choice of its servants,—who in their turn exhibited such distinguished talents,—or which upon the whole conducted its affairs with such purity of motives and so studied the interests of the people confided to their charge as the Government of India."

But it was the general opinion of the public that the time had arrived for the transfer of the duties of the Company to the Throne.

"That transfer is not so easy a task as some would suppose. . . . I think he would be a bold, not to say a presumptuous Minister, who could hope by himself, or with the aid of his colleagues, with a notice of a few days, or even a few weeks, to strike out a scheme which would not be liable to grave objections, or which in its progress would not require serious modifications. We have been called upon suddenly and unexpectedly to undertake the duties of Government, and among others the one to which I have alluded, which is not the least pressing. We have not the presumption to suppose that we can be pre-eminently successful. We have deemed it our duty to bring forward a measure which, as we believe, may effect some of the objects to which I have referred. We laid that measure before the country, purposely and intentionally, previously to the recess, in order that it might be subjected to public investigation and inquiry. We do not deprecate, but, on the contrary, we court discussion. We court suggestions. We court the co-operation and advice of Parliament and of the country, with the view of rendering the change which we propose as safe and beneficial as we earnestly desire that it may prove to be. The one thing which we alone deprecate,—and which we deprecate, not for the sake of the Government of the day, but on account of the important interests involved both in this country and in India,—is that a question involving such mighty interests, and of such overwhelming importance, should be made the sport of political parties or the battle-field of rival disputants."

Then reverting to the disturbed condition of our Indian Empire, his Lordship spoke eloquently of the sufferings endured by our countrymen, and the heroism of our soldiers:—

"Their daring in the field, their courage in the siege, their patient and heroic endurance have hardly been equalled in the military history of the world. So long as history shall be known, so long as the world shall last, will be familiar as household words to every Englishman the recollection of the noble gallantry and desperate courage displayed at the siege and capture of Delhi, and the heroism, the patience, the more than mortal suffering, of the noble garrison of Lucknow. Even while I speak I trust that a brighter glory is about to beam upon the name of Lucknow. I trust that the gallant and illustrious chief who commands the army of India may at this moment have crushed beneath the iron heel of conquest the last embers of this serious mutiny. I trust that even now Lucknow may be once again in the power of our victorious troops. I wish I could think that when Lucknow is captured it would be possible for us to sheathe the sword. But the sword must still be drawn, if not for war, at least to execute the stern behests of justice. There are deeds which cannot be allowed to go un punished. There is innocent blood which calls for just retribution. But although the sword may be drawn, let it be the sword of cool, calm, and impartial justice,—not of wild and indiscriminate revenge. Punish you must—assert your authority you must—exact a severe penalty you must from those who have committed deeds which even legitimate warfare could not sanction; but when you have exacted that measure of punishment, I trust we shall exhibit in India the best principles of that Christianity which we are anxious to extend throughout the world."

The Lord Chancellor and the Chancellor of the Exchequer also made little speeches, in which there was nothing worth recording, except perhaps a remark of Mr. Disraeli's—that the Exchequer was certainly not in an overbrimming state.

ACCIDENT TO THE LEVIATHAN.—During a sharp north-easterly squall, which swept up the river with considerable violence on Monday, the moorings of the great ship were subjected to most severe strain—a strain under which some of those on the port bow at last gave way, and for a time exposed the vessel to a certain amount of peril. Ever since the vessel has occupied her new berth near Deptford, her moorings have been more or less severely tested, and on one occasion, which occurred a few days after her launch, she swerved to such an extent into the centre of the river that two of the largest of Trotman's anchors, which hung at her bows, had to be immediately let go to check her. With the additional security which the immense strength and tenacity of these anchors afforded, her position was believed to be perfectly secure, as far as regarded any further dragging. It seems, however, that the mooring chains, strong as they were, were not able to resist the immense strain exerted by the wind upon the vessel's side—a pressure which at some moments must have amounted to at least 500 tons upon the whole surface. Under this great strain, one of the mooring-chains on the port bow parted about twenty feet below the hawse-hole, and threw such an unfair weight upon the others that a second stem-chain broke, and allowed the vessel's bows to swing in towards the Deptford shore. Mr. Prowse, the chief officer, who has charge of the vessel, immediately took every precaution to secure her safely. Under his direction, some large hawsers were taken out and made fast to the stern moorings of the new Dreadnought hospital ship, which kept the vessel from further drifting, and then, with the assistance of three powerful tugs, her head was again hauled round into her old position. Some additional mooring-chains of great strength were also procured, and with these she was made fast beyond the chance of further accident.

MORTALITY IN THE ARMY.—The adult male population of England of the same ages as the soldier, loses every year 92 in every 10,000 of its numbers; but our soldiers, originally picked men, lose by deaths alone, after the separation of large numbers of unsound lives by discharge and invaliding, from 110 to 204 in every 10,000! The rate is 119 among the Household Cavalry; 133 among the Dragoon Guards and Dragoons; 187 among the Infantry of the Line; and 204 among the Foot Guards. This disparity between the civilian and the soldier exists at every period of their respective lives. Civilians from 20 to 25 years of age lose 54 in the 10,000, but soldiers lose 170. From 25 to 30 the mortality among civilians is 92 in the 10,000, but among soldiers 183. From 30 to 35 civilians lose 102 in the 10,000, but soldiers 184. And lastly, from 35 to 40 the deaths among the former are 116, among the latter 193 per 10,000. The mortality prevailing among the army is, therefore, at all ages, very nearly, if not quite, double that obtaining among the corresponding civil population.

THE FORCE AT ALDERSHOTT.—At Aldershot there are no less than twenty regiments of infantry more or less complete, of which fourteen are militia, and six regiments of the line. In addition to these, there are two cavalry regiments, 4th Light Dragoons and 11th Hussars, some battalions of the Military Train, companies of the Royal Engineers, and detachments of horse and foot artillery, making a total effective force of all ranks of nearly 19,000 men. This strength will be still further increased in the course of the next two months by the addition of some heavy cavalry, a further detachment of engineers, and two battalions of the household troops; so that, even deducting a large margin for sick and absent men, with those detailed for camp duty, there will always be, throughout the summer, an effective army of at least 20,000 men of all arms ready to take the field at an hour's notice.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

MASTER PIECES OF MODERN ART.

The Proprietors of the "Illustrated Times" inform their readers that they have been engaged for many months past in the preparation of a series of most highly-finished Engravings on a large scale, to be printed separately from the paper, and which they propose to issue at short intervals during the present year. Specimens of these Engravings will be sent to the hands of the new-arrivals, and the Proprietors will allow them to speak for themselves, being confident that they will more than amply repay the elegy they could bestow upon them.

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During the present year the Proprietors will also issue at least two Elaborately-constructed Maps, the same size as the Map of London published by them in March of last year. The first of these will be

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1858.

OUR REPRESENTATIVE AT TURIN.

It is not often that the public is favoured with a peep into the mysteries of the diplomatic service, and the recent revelations as to the manner of conducting business in the English and Sardinian chancery at Turin, are not likely to give it any higher opinion of that branch of the administration than it has already conceived. Here we find an ambassador—or, to speak diplomatically, a minister—who is so remiss as to sign letters which he has not read, and a secretary of legation who is so little aware of the importance of his functions, that he absolutely amuses himself by altering communications which he has been instructed to copy. The case is stated at some length in another part of our columns, but we can acquaint our readers with its leading features in a very few words. The Sardinian Government complained of the seizure of the *Cagliari* by King Bomba's pirates, and was anxious to know what England thought of that transaction.

The English Government wished first of all to have a clear statement of all the particulars of the affair, and the British minister at Turin, Sir James Hudson, was instructed to make the desired application in the proper quarter. Sir James Hudson directed Mr. Erskine, his secretary of legation, to prepare a letter to the Sardinian Foreign Office, and in Mr. Erskine's draft occurred these words—"I have been instructed to ask whether the Sardinian Government means to object," &c. (that is to say, to the seizure of the *Cagliari*). Sir James Hudson read the draft, approved of it, and directed Mr. Erskine to copy it.

Instead, however, of copying, Mr. Erskine varied the draft; and for the words we have quoted, substituted these—"I have been instructed to acquaint your Excellency that her Majesty's Government are disposed to object to these proceedings." &c. Such "copying" was never heard of before; but Mr. Erskine's excuse for what is charitably called his "blunder" (and which was something more than a blunder, for it was a gross departure from duty) is almost as original as his copying. "You will, perhaps," he writes to his chief, "have experienced the difficulty of literally transcribing a paper of your own composition, and I can only, in this way, account for the alteration which occurred." Mr. Erskine seems to forget that he not only omitted to transcribe literally, but that he said what he was not empowered to say, and at the same time failed to put the inquiry which he had been specially intrusted to make. The worst of the matter is, that the Sardinians naturally thought we were prepared to join them in bringing the Neapolitan madman to something like reason, and now Lord Malmesbury is placed in this humiliating position—he has to explain to the Sardinian Government that it was "all a mistake," and that England had never any intention of co-operating with it at all!

It is useless to dwell upon the importance of excluding such persons as Mr. Erskine from the diplomatic service; but we cannot conclude without calling attention to the dignified and altogether admirable letter of the Sardinian ambassador, who suggests to Lord Malmesbury that he should regard the question as one, not of documents, but of facts, and expresses a hope that "the inadvertency or mistake may become a truth, and that the two cabinets, relying upon the same principles of international law, may act in concert to demand that which is their due."

THE RED SEA TRANSPORT SERVICE.—We have already published an account of the SUCC affair, in which a detachment of the 92nd Highlanders under Colonel Mackenzie, refused to proceed in the Pottinger (Frisland and Oriental Company's steamer), and departed instead in the Columbian. Some official correspondence is now published, but it throws little additional light on the matter. It appears that Colonel Mackenzie objected to the accommodation, and also to the provisions. Captain Stevens, the Admiralty agent of the Columbian, at the request of Col. Mackenzie, inspected the Pottinger. This inspection confirmed the conclusion of Col. Mackenzie, that the Pottinger was not in such a state of preparation as to justify him in commencing the voyage with the 235 men under his charge. Captain Stevens condemns the state of the steamer decidedly, but as to the quality of the provisions, he states that the biscuit only was bad; the salt meat, examining half a dozen casks, was found very good; he declares, in justice to those who supplied it, that "he had never seen better in thirty-four years of naval service." Colonel Mackenzie refused to proceed in the Pottinger, and finally started in the Columbian.

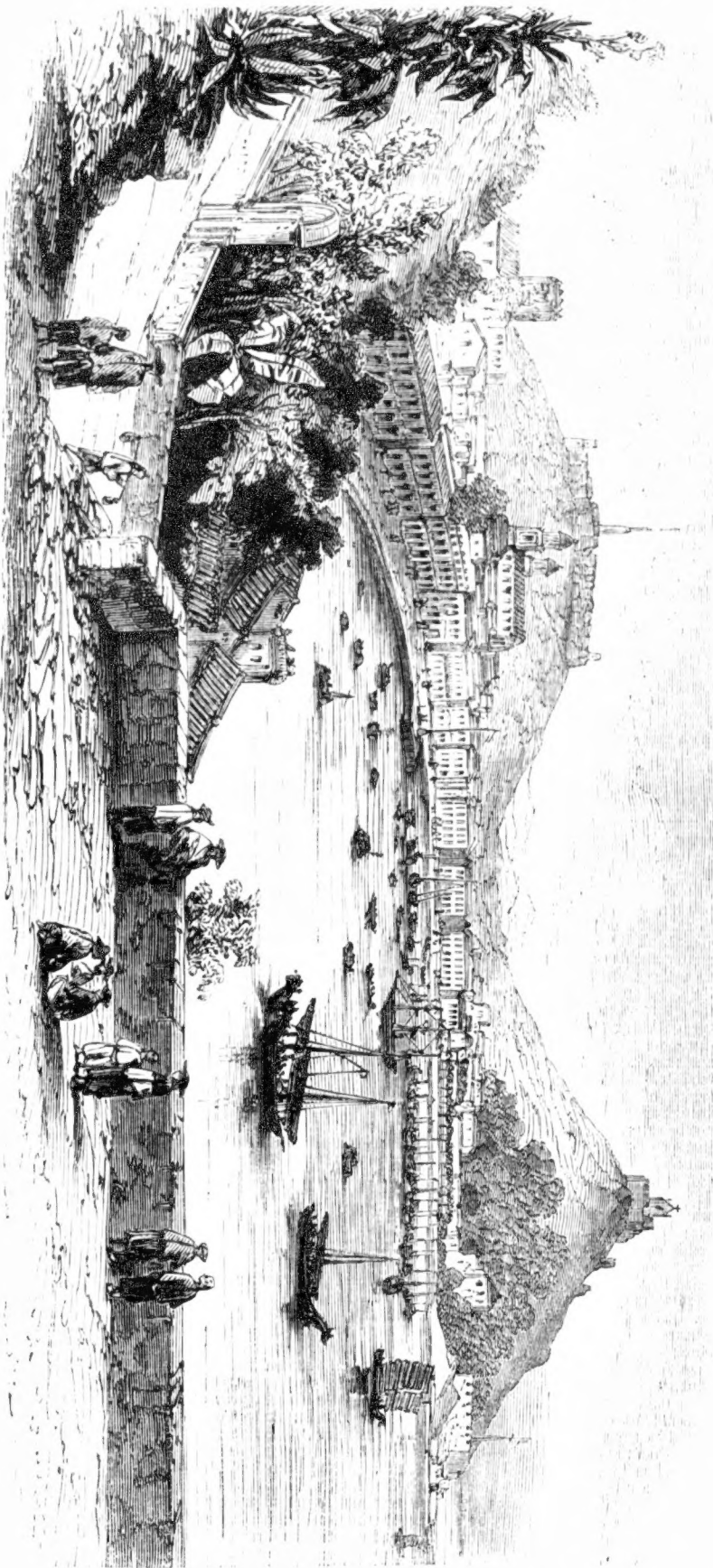


AN UNWILLING VOYAGER.—(FROM A PICTURE BY HERMAN KRETZSCHMAR)

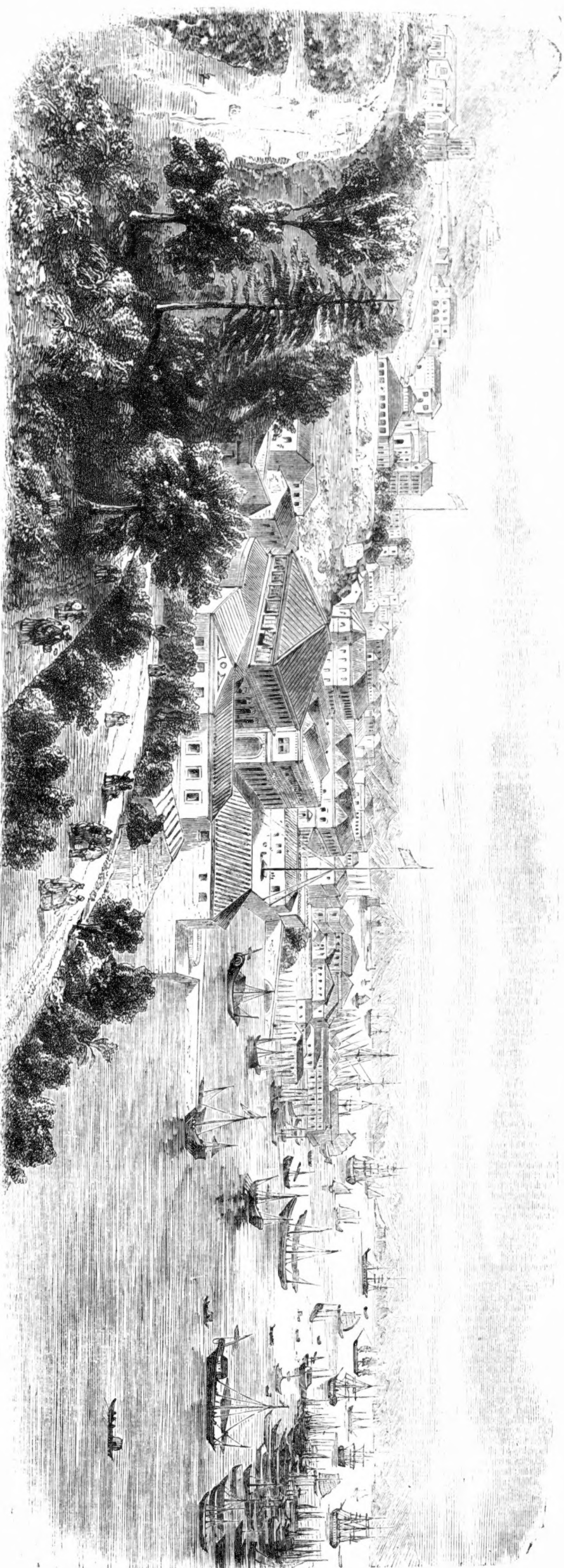
MACAO.

MACAO is a seaport town, and a settlement of the Portuguese in China at the entrance to the Canton river, on a peninsula of the island of the same name. The peninsula, which is two and a half miles in length, by less than a mile in breadth, is connected with the mainland by a narrow, low, and sandy isthmus. Macao was ceded to the Portuguese in 1586 by the Chinese Emperor, in return for assistance afforded to the Celestial Government, which at that period found it necessary to pursue a very determined course against the pirates who infested the river, plundering not only the small trading vessels, but sacking the villages along the shore.

The town of Macao stands on a series of declivities, around a semicircular harbor, the margin of which is lined by an embanked parade, and a terrace of well-built European houses. Behind these, Chinese and European residences are indiscriminately scattered. The population numbers between 30,000 and 40,000, the Chinese inhabitants being the most numerous. There is nothing remarkable in the appearance of the city, the streets of which, like most others in China, are narrow and far from clean. The public buildings are neither numerous nor remarkable for architectural beauty. The church of St. Joseph and the Senate House are the most striking, and one or two Chinese temples exhibit beautiful examples of carving. The college of St. Joseph, a Royal grammar school, and a female orphan asylum, constitute the educational semestaries. There is one circumstance connected with Macao which cannot fail to interest the intelligent reader: the Portuguese poet Camões resided here for a considerable time, and at



GENERAL VIEW OF MACAO.



THE ROADSTEAD AT HONG-KONG, CANTON RIVER.

one end of the town stands the house in which he composed the greater part of his "Lusiad."

The harbour, which is defended by six forts, mounting numerous guns, can only be entered by small vessels; ships of heavy draught anchor in a roadstead to the east of the island. The trade of Macao is nominally restricted to the Portuguese and Spanish shipping. English vessels, however, find no difficulty in getting a freight; indeed, of late years, the principal trade has been carried on through the medium of our ships.

Although the Portuguese officials and others constitute a senate, nominally for the government of the town, the substantial authority is vested in a Chinese mandarin. In common with other western nations, the Portuguese have recently had "difficulties" with the Chinese; and broils and bloodshed have been the result, both at Macao and elsewhere.

THE ROADSTEAD OF HONG-KONG.

The roadstead of Hong-kong was selected by the commanders of the English opium clippers as the most convenient and secure rendezvous at which to receive the nocturnal visits of the Chinese smugglers, who came with bars of Sycee silver to exchange for the coveted drug, which is consumed by the Chinese in enormous quantities. The anchorage in the roadsteads of Hong-kong is good; still, as violent hurricanes are frequent, vessels are far from being safe there.

As for the town of Hong-kong, we have already given an account of it in this Journal (see No. 151), and need not occupy our space by repeating the descrip-



MAHOMETAN SERVANTS IN INDIA.—(FROM A SKETCH BY PRINCE SOLTYKOFF.)

MAHOMETAN SERVANTS IN INDIA.

THE most useful class of domestic servants in a European establishment in India are the Mahometans, who have none of those aggravating prejudices so peculiar to the Hindoo, whose caste will only permit him to perform certain offices. The Mahometans are remarkably clean in their dress and persons, and in their movements they are active and graceful. A robe of white linen, fitting close to the upper part of the body, but loose and long in the skirt, with wide sleeves; loose trousers

of the same material, and turbans of various colours, twisted in many different ways, compose the universal dress. In general they are very docile, respectful, and faithful when treated with kindness or consideration. It is to be regretted that many Europeans forget their dignity, and render themselves hateful to their servants through their brutal and domineering conduct towards them.

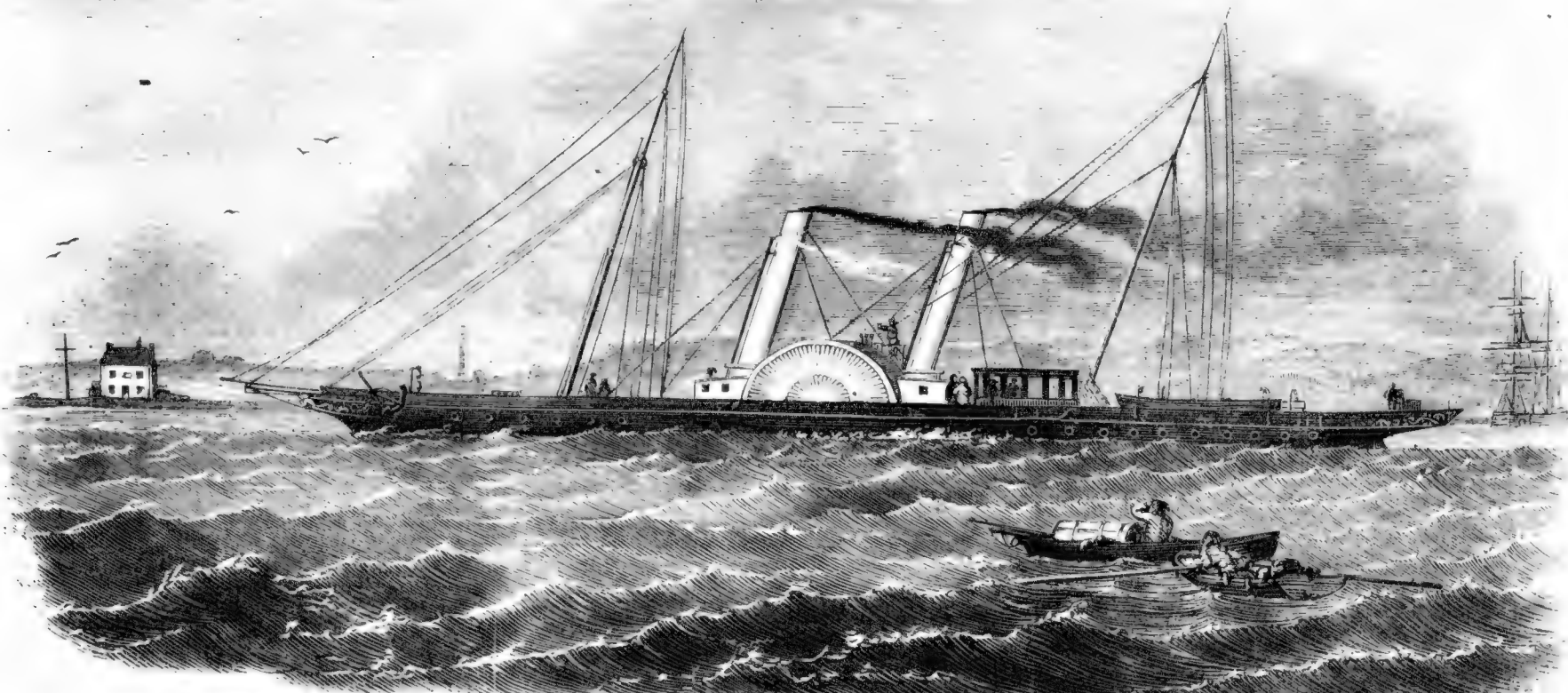
The centre figure in the group before the reader is a hookah-buridar, or pipe-bearer, whose duties consist in preparing tobacco and keeping

the hookahs in order. His wages vary from five to ten shillings a month, and with this small sum (ten or fourteen shillings) he contrives to keep a wife and perhaps two or three children, but no money. In a European household he ranks next to the khedive or table servant, who considers himself A 1, unless there is a khar or butler, in the establishment.

The figure to the left is a dirzee, or tailor, a very necessary age in a family in India, for dhobis, or washermen, so destroying that repairs and buttons are always wanting when they are wanted. The dirzee can, generally speaking, do any kind of needlework. He can make a coat, bonnet, cap, or dress, darn stockings, and mend the fronts and collars of which he will stitch with a neatness that would astonish some of the best needlewomen in England. They usually sit in the verandahs and work from ten a.m. till five p.m., during which time they take no refreshment, unless it is a pipe, with the other servants of the house. The figure to the right is nominally a punkah-wallah, whose duties are various. They principally consist in keeping in motion during meals the punkahs suspended from the ceiling immediately over the table, and when not engaged he plays with the children and assists the other servants, particularly the ayah or nurse, to whom he is sometimes a complete substitute. The group is from a sketch made by Prince Soltykoff, who, some two or three years since, made an extensive tour through Bengal and North-western Provinces of India.

TRANSPORTATION OF INDIAN MUTINEERS.—We read in the "Gleaner" of Feb. 27:—The *Roman Emperor* and *Edward* will leave on Monday morning for the Andaman Islands with the mutineers brought to Kurrachee. One hundred and seventy-six of the mutineers will embark this morning on board the *Roman Emperor*, and 142 on board the *Edward*. The arrangements made for the conveyance, the bunder and reception of the vagabonds on board, are very common. They will be removed from the gaol at six o'clock in carts, under the escort of the Punjab police, who accompanied them from the Punjab. The lower deck of the ships has been fitted up with cages on each side, with a passage in the centre for the guard. They are to be taken down to the deck, and are to attend to all their own wants on board, and to be their own topasses. The only thing to be done for them is to be their provisions, which will be cooked by the vessel. The crew officers are to be well armed, so there is no fear of the prisoners attempting to break out. On arrival at the Andaman Islands their fetters will be taken off, and they will be let loose amongst the savages. The Government of Bengal we understand have ordered two years' provisions to be stored on the island for them, and the steamer *Semiramis* is stationed there to prevent any vessels removing these scoundrels. The only remaining thing to be done now is, that the King of Delhi should be disposed of in exactly the same manner, and left to propagate his kingdom among his pet lambs.

ALARMING OUTBREAK OF SMALL-POX ON BOARD AN EAST INDIA TROOP-SHIP.—Intelligence having been received at Chatham that small-pox had broken out in a very violent manner among the East India troops, who embarked on Wednesday week at Gravesend, on board the Hon. East India Company's ship *Abeona*, at Calcutta, and that several of the men of the 23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers were suffering from it, information of the circumstance was at once forwarded to the authorities at the Horse Guards, when a telegraphic despatch arrived at Chatham on the Thursday evening, directing Colonel Eyre, in command of the garrison, to disembark the whole of the men belonging to the 23rd depot, in order that they might be sent back to Chatham, where they will remain until the medical officers report that the disease has entirely disappeared. There were about 600 cavalry and infantry troops on board the *Abeona*, and it is a fortunate circumstance that the outbreak of the small-pox was discovered before the vessel left Gravesend, or the consequences would, in all probability, have been very serious. The whole of the troops who are suffering from small-pox are under treatment in the military hospitals at Chatham.



THE FANTASIE YACHT, BUILT FOR THE ARCHDUKE MAXIMILIAN OF AUSTRIA BY MESSRS. G. RENNIE AND SONS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

THE DERBY MINISTRY



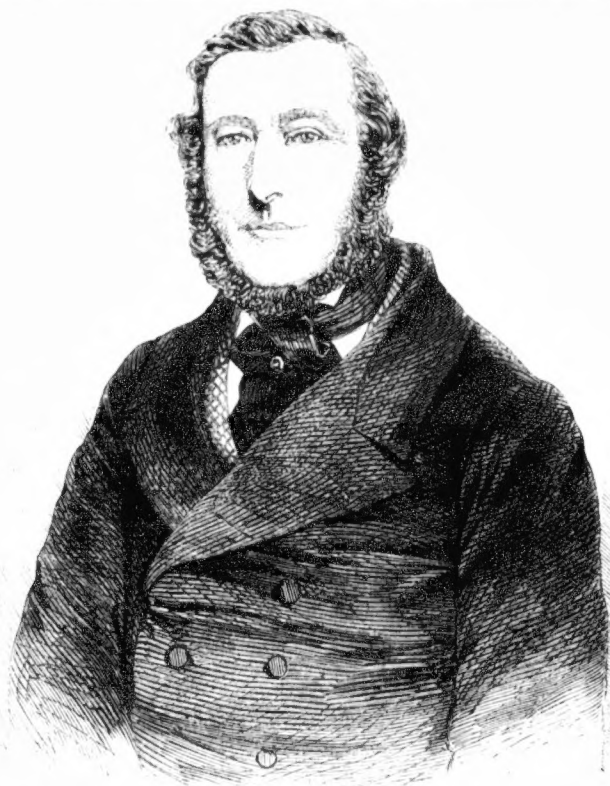
EARL TALBOT, CAPTAIN OF THE GENTLEMEN-AT-ARMS.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.)



THE MARQUIS OF EXETER, LORD-STEWARD.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.)



VISCOUNT NEWPORT, VICE-CHAMBERLAIN.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.)



RIGHT HON. H. CORRY, SECRETARY TO THE ADMIRALTY.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.)



RT. HON. JAS. WHITESIDE, IRISH ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY EASTHAM, MANCHESTER.)



RT. HON. SIR H. CAIRNS, SOLICITOR-GENERAL.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY J. WATKINS.)

THE DERBY ADMINISTRATION.

THE MARQUIS OF EXETER, K.G.

The Most Noble Browlow Cecil, second Marquis of Exeter, K.G., who has succeeded the Earl of St. German as Lord Steward of the Household under Lord Derby's administration, is the elder son of the first Marquis and tenth Earl of Exeter, by his second marriage. His mother was Sarah, daughter of Mr. T. Hoagins, a plain Shropshire yeoman, of whom the story is told that she was wooed and won by her noble husband as plain Mr. Cecil, and was almost painfully astonished when she learned that she was mistress of Hurlingham House.

The Marquis of Exeter was born at Hurlingham House July 2nd, 1795, and received his early education at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated M.A. in 1811, and proceeded LL.D. in 1835. Succeeding to the honours of the peerage in 1801, when scarcely nine years old, his Lordship never held a seat in the Lower House, and he has never taken a prominent part in the proceedings of the Upper House. He was Groom of the Stole to H.R.H. Prince Albert, under Sir R. Peel's administration of 1841-6, and Lord Chamberlain under that of Lord Derby in 1852. His Lordship is also Lord-Lieutenant of the counties of Rutland and Northampton, Hereditary Grand Almoner to her Majesty, Recorder of Stamford, and an Official Trustee of the British Museum. His eldest son, Lord Burleigh, was M.P. for South Lincolnshire in the last Parliament, and now represents the Northern Division of Northamptonshire. Our readers will scarcely need to be reminded that both the Marquis of Exeter and the Marquis of Salisbury are descended from the famous Cecil, Lord Burleigh, the Minister of Queen Elizabeth.

EARL TALBOT.

The Right Honourable Henry John Chetwynd Talbot, third Earl Talbot of Ingestre (so called to distinguish from the senior branch, which is represented by Lord Talbot de Malahide), is the eldest son of the late Earl, by Miss Lambert, of Beau Park, County of Meath. He was born in 1803, and entered the navy in 1817. He saw some active service at Navarino, and was sent home with the despatches announcing that victory, for which service he had the good luck to obtain his promotion to the rank of Commander. He was subsequently appointed to the *Reinbow* and the *Tyne*, in the latter of which ships he served again on the Mediterranean station. He went on half-pay in 1837, and became a rear-admiral on the retired list in 1854. His Lordship, as we learn from "Hardwick's Shilling Peerage," is a naval aide-de-camp to the Queen, and bears the foreign orders of the Redeemer of Greece, St. Louis of France, and St. Anne of Russia. He is also a Deputy-Lieutenant for Staffordshire, and Lieutenant-Colonel of the Staffordshire Militia. He was for some years a member of the House of Commons, having sat for Hertford in the Parliament of 1830, for Armagh in 1831, and for the City of Dublin in the August following. In 1832 he was again chosen for Hertford, but was unseated on petition. He represented South Staffordshire from 1837 down to his accession to the peerage in 1849. He was one of the Lords-in-waiting during Lord Derby's first administration, and, as our readers are aware, now claims the Earldom of Shrewsbury. His eldest son, Viscount Ingestre, M.P. for Stafford, is well known for his exertions in the cause of the working-classes.

In the contest for the Shrewsbury peerage last session, before the House of Lords, a Roman Catholic, in his zeal for the interests of the Duke of Norfolk, or rather for the Roman Catholic cause, deposed that "I have heard the late Earl of Shrewsbury say, that Lord Talbot had no more claim to the peerage than this pen," taking a pen from the table and throwing it down.

VISCOUNT NEWPORT, M.P.

The Right Honourable Orlando George Charles Bridgeman, Viscount Newport, who has just been appointed Vice-Chamberlain of her Majesty's Household, is the eldest son of the Earl of Bradford by his first marriage. His Lordship was born in 1819, and was educated at Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated M.A. in 1840. His Lordship is a Deputy-Lieutenant for Staffordshire and Warwickshire, and Captain in the South Salop Yeomanry Cavalry. He has also represented the Southern Division of Shropshire since 1842, and held his present office under Lord Derby's former administration. His Lordship is married to a sister of the present Lord Forester.

Lord Newport is not much known in the House of Commons; perhaps there may be fifty members who could point him out, certainly not more, and in the Reporter's Gallery we should fancy he is entirely unknown, unless some of the members of the reporting corps remember him as having been Vice-Chamberlain of the Household in 1852. He is not often present in the House, seldom stops long, and we believe never speaks. We have some glimmering notion that we have seen him on his legs presenting a petition, but we certainly never heard his Lordship attempt to make a speech. His ambition, we should imagine, does not at all urge him in that direction. On the contrary, we should say he is of a shy, retiring disposition, for we have noticed that when he is in the House he is generally in some obscure corner. What the particular duties of Vice-Chamberlain are at the Palace, we know not, but his duties at the House are simply to vote when he is wanted. Occasionally, but not often, he may have to appear in the Windsor uniform with the silver key of his office tucked into his belt, to deliver an answer from her Majesty to an address. But this he will only have to perform in the absence of the Comptroller.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE H. LOWRY CORRY, M.P.

The Right Honourable Henry Thomas Lowry Corry, M.P. for the county of Tyrone, and recently appointed Secretary to the Admiralty, is the second son of the late Earl of Belmore by a daughter of the Earl of Carrick. He was born in Dublin in 1803, and was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, where he was a second class in classics in 1823, and subsequently took his degree of M.A. In 1826 he was elected M.P. for the county of Tyrone, which he has continued to represent without interruption for more than thirty years. His Lordship is not new to official life; he was Comptroller of the Household under Sir R. Peel in 1834-5; and a Lord of the Admiralty under that Statesman's second administration of 1841; and held his present post from 1845 to 1846. He was sworn a Member of the Privy Council in 1835. He is married to a sister of the Earl of Shaftesbury.

Mr. Corry is a very old member of the House of Commons. For thirty-two years he has been member for Tyrone; and his tall form is as well known by the old members as the Speaker's is. The Right Hon. Gentleman is not, however, a frequent nor very remarkable speaker. He can state a case in plain words, but he can do no more, nor does he attempt it. He is, however, acknowledged by all parties to be a very efficient member, and quite equal to the duties of the offices which he has held; but he owes his present position probably more to his powerful family connections than to any Parliamentary services which he may have rendered to his party; for in truth in the House of Commons he does little more than vote and perform the usual routine work of committees. Mr. Corry's place up to the time of the late change was on the front seat below the gangway on the Opposition side of the House.

THE RIGHT HON. J. WHITESIDE, M.P.

The Right Hon. James Whiteside, Lord Derby's Attorney-General for Ireland, is the son of a beneficed clergyman of the Church of England, and was born in the county of Wicklow, in 1806. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated in honours, and he subsequently obtained premiums in the first law class that was formed in the University of London. He was called to the Irish Bar in 1830, and held the post of Solicitor-General for Ireland under Lord Derby's previous administration. He was first returned for the snug pocket borough of Enniskillen in 1851, and considering that its registered electors amount to no more than 144, it is no wonder that he recently declined the honour of becoming a candidate for his own University of Dublin. Mr. Whiteside was sworn a Privy Councillor for Ireland on accepting his present appointment. He is well known in the republic of letters, as the author of several works of merit on Italy and ancient Rome.

Everyone who is in the habit of attending the House of Commons

must know Mr. Whiteside, now the Right Hon. J. Whiteside, her Majesty's Attorney-General for Ireland. His seat, up to the late change, was in the front of the Opposition bench, either next to or in close proximity to Mr. Russell, of the Hon. Mr. Russell was always there excepting when his professional duties called him to Ireland; and when a regular political "sitting-out" was expected, it must have been some very important duty indeed to keep him away from the room. The Hon. Gentleman is known to have an Irish fondness for a roe, and one does not turn up now and then in the natural way, he is sure to get one; and he cannot utter a name better—on the road and in the country. No man in the House has one heard him ever forget his eloquence. It is true Irish eloquence, as well as heard. All Irishmen are eloquent. We never knew an Irishman attempt to speak and fail. He may blunder, and say the oddest things, but he never boggles or hesitates. But Mr. Whiteside's flow of language is very remarkable. Some people admire his speeches very much. Mr. Disraeli, we believe, thinks him the greatest orator in the House (excepting, of course, himself). But we do not place him thus high. Indeed, we are scarcely disposed to call him a great orator at all. His harangues are Irish eloquence, not true oratory. It is not pleasant to hear them; few care to read them; they never produce a permanent effect; and we do not believe that one will survive the present generation. Mr. Whiteside has fairly earned his present position by his parliamentary services; and we wish him no worse luck than that he should get a judgeship, and his "Big Brother, the Doctor," a bishopric, before Mr. Lord Derby goes out, for, with all his inflammability in the House, in private intercourse there are few more amiable men than the Right Honourable James Whiteside.

SIR H. M. CAIRNS, M.P.

Sir Hugh McCalmont Cairns, the new Solicitor-General, is the second son of the late William Cairns, Esq., of Cultra, in the county of Down. He was born in 1819, so that he has reached his present post at an unusually early age. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he was first class in classics in 1840, and obtained other distinguished honours. He was called to the bar at the Middle Temple in 1841, since which time his rise has been particularly rapid in his professional practice and reputation. As a member of the Chancery Bar he stands deservedly high. He was first returned to Parliament for the city of Belfast, at the general election of 1852. Though a Conservative, we believe that he is in favour of a liberal measure of tenant-right for Ireland, and voted, if we are not mistaken, for inquiry into the Mayoism of 1850.

Sir Hugh McCalmont Cairns has long been considered in the House "a rising man;" and though he only entered Parliament in 1852, it was settled by "those who ought to know," that whenever the Conservatives came in, the Hon. and Learned Gentleman would certainly be Solicitor-General; but Sir Hugh has gained his position more by his general professional character and abilities than by his services in the House of Commons. His speeches there have not been numerous—certainly not remarkable; and he never that we remember even delivered a speech on any great occasion that was supposed in any appreciable degree to have influenced the division. Sir Hugh talks in good lawyer-like style, and perhaps may convince, but certainly never moves, the House. He is a very fair debater, but no orator; and for an Irishman is singularly cool and unimpassioned.

LAW AND CRIME.

The hanging system has presented itself to the public under a novel and peculiar aspect during the last week. We have had the "Last Hours of a Condemned," The man Shepherd, convicted at York, for a base, cruel, and cowardly murder, proved, when he obtained the ear of the penny-a-liner, to be an immensely funny dog. He viewed his approaching doom under its most humorous aspect. He joked upon everything, from the tight fit of his trousers to subjects upon which only the most pious and exemplary of the penny newspapers dare quote his language, for fear of lying open to a charge of blasphemy. If Shepherd's mission on earth had been to discredit the moral effect of the gallows, he could scarcely have carried it out more completely. If the reporter's business had been to second those efforts, he could not have done so more powerfully than by retelling the wretch's jests. The combined effect of both tends to bring hanging into utter contempt. If any mere atheist, not a murderer, had uttered the scurrilous profanities attributed to Shepherd, his hearers would probably have shrunk from him in horror. Because he is deservedly about to be hanged, the journals print them *in extenso*. A fine moral to wags, who may learn therefrom that the best plan to ensure publicity for their witticisms will be, not to employ, but to murder, a publisher!

The proceedings in the matter of the affray between the Dublin police and the students are still pending. Colonel Browne and seven of his constables having been committed for trial. Counter-charges are being made against several of the students. We may mention that we have heard that the excitement of the police was little to be wondered at considering the provocation they had received, since offensive missiles as rotten eggs having been freely used. Perhaps, moreover, party feeling entered into the matter to a greater extent than Englishmen would, upon a mere cursory reading of the circumstances, be led to imagine. In all the Dublin police there are only about a score of Protestants. In Dublin every possible type of the Orange party is adopted as a symbol. Even an orange-coloured pocket-handkerchief is there a well-known party badge. The pelting of the police with oranges was not so inoffensive a proceeding as it would be at Greenwich or Hyde Park. A curious legal difficulty suggests itself with respect to the liabilities of the colonel and his subordinates. If they, acting under his orders as colonel, committed the onslaught complained of, it seems that he is the only person responsible, having given an illegal command. If they exceeded his command, or carried out his lawful orders in an unlawful manner, how is he to be blamed? To convict both the officer and his men in such a case for wanton and arbitrary and cruel excess of authority would certainly be justice, but decidedly not in accordance with any legal precedent. If the right of judgment be once accepted to a private soldier or constable when ordered to act, where is this right of judgment to be limited?

In the present state of the law, a creditor residing above twenty miles from his debtor, is allowed to sue for a debt above £2 and under £20 either in the county court of the district in which he lives or carries on business, or in the superior courts at Westminster. In the case of a disputed account, it is manifestly to the plaintiff's advantage, where the election is given him by law, to sue in the superior court; for, if he adopt the county court process, and conduct the case himself, he will probably be defeated by the agency of a shrewd attorney employed by the defendant. It will be worth defendant's money to pay such an attorney in order to evade the debt. Should plaintiff himself employ an attorney, it will be at his own expense, even should he succeed; as in debts under £5 no fees whatever are allowed for legal conduct of the case, and in claims beyond that amount and up to £20, 15s. only is allowed for the advocate. Moreover, strange as it may appear, the process of the superior courts is usually cheaper than that of the county courts, so boastful of their cheapness. A writ for a debt of hundreds of pounds costs but five shillings as a court fee, whereas a county court summons for £18 costs 15s. The result of this bungling legislation is, that petty debts of three or four pounds incurred in the most ordinary method of commercial business, by means of "travellers," who collect orders at a distance, become frequent subjects of litigation in the superior courts. An action was tried last week in the Sheriff's Court of Bristol, concerning a debt of £1 12s., on which a writ of trial had been ordered from the Court of Exchequer at Westminster. The plaintiff's traveller swore that certain goods had been ordered by defendant, and on the part of the defence this evidence was satisfactorily refuted. The case excited some local interest, especially as the costs of the trial on one side and the other will be at least about six times the amount of the sum in dispute. Of course, the blame is all thrown upon the "lawyers," who notwithstanding happen to be blameless in the matter. If plaintiff's

attorney had successfully conducted the case for his client in the county court, the costs, not recoverable against defendant, would have been paid as he has justly done, he would not have recovered his costs, as now he will. But, nevertheless, the system is obviously one which reduces the law of debt to a game like one of cards, and is heard described, in which each player boasts of the number of times he has to certify an opponent into "knocking under," when the result is perhaps the best of all, and the more than spirit, loses his case. Even thus, many a defendant, in the case of a small and easily paid debt, prefers paying it at once to risking a costly action. As to the costs of the county court system, the phrase and the fact are alike true. To carry an undoubted debt of twenty pounds to execution by means of the county court and without employing an attorney costs a plaintiff in fees alone, to say nothing of expenses to witnesses, &c., £10, while a similar action, or one to any amount, may be carried on in a similar point in the Common Pleas by the plaintiff in person for *thirty shillings!* And when the execution is issued from the superior courts, it goes into the hands of a responsible solicitor of the county, whereas in many county courts it affords only a means of relation to a set of bailiffs whose delays and impracticability are celebrated, and only await impending exposure to become notorious.

In the case of Mr. Aitchison and Mrs. Hill, two persons of respectability committed for trial under circumstances upon which we have already commented a fortnight since, the grand jury at the Central Criminal Court ignored the bill. Their attorney writes to the *Journal* to say that had his clients been afforded the opportunity they would have satisfactorily proved their innocence. We think, with the grand jury, that such proof was by no means requisite.

The Reverend Mr. Smith and his wife have been tried for the atrocious attack upon Mr. Leech, of which the details are given on another page. The assault as described was clearly proved; and the Reverend Mr. Smith in his defence, the main facts of which appear to have been borne out by Mr. Leech's own cross-examination, completely turned the tide of public sympathy. He showed that Leech had been the cool plotting schemer of Mrs. Smith, both before and after her marriage. He related how the fallen woman had voluntarily, and on a pretence of conscience, confessed to her husband the manner in which her legitimate affections had been tampered with, and its result, and traced a scene of real life, with the erring wife upon her knees surrounded by her children, praying for forgiveness from her husband—a scene more touching, because evidently more true, than any scene ever imagined by a writer of fiction. He narrated then his own plan for revenge, by administering to Mr. Leech a sound and severe thrashing, to be bestowed, under kind of dramatic justice, at the completion of a long journey—as was one which he had previously undertaken to commit the sin of such elation. The guilty wife was forced by promises of forgiveness to lend her aid to the scheme. All this to more than the world may seem strange and incongruous; but country clergyman smarting under terrible undeserved injury, are not men of the world; cannot be expected to be so. Great allowance is to be made for a man as the Rev. Mr. Smith in such a case. The law would do him little or no aid, and the idea of a clergyman challenging a "traveller," formerly a porter at a linen-draper's, would have been deemed Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been convicted of a minor offence, that assaulting with the intention of doing grievous bodily harm. Some is deferred, and so also is the consideration of a local point as to whether Mrs. Smith acted under her husband's coercion.

POLICE.

GUERRE MILLS GREY.—Matthew Jones, a young counterfeiter, charged with uttering a false note on the Leicestershire Bank, &c., &c., and defrauding one George Manson.

Prosecutor said he was a turf commissioner and telegraph agent. On Tuesday night last he was at the bar of a public-house, when the prisoner came in, and forcing himself into conversation, pressed him to let him have a particular horse entered to run at Newmarket.

The chief clerk asked what prosecutor meant by describing him as a telegraph agent?

Prosecutor replied that his telegraph business was chiefly of a secret character; he transmitted bets on turf matters for gentlemen. He having teased him very much to let, followed him out of the house, and continuing, offered a 50s. bet on the forthcoming race. Prisoner said he would stake the money. Prosecutor at length consenting, as we would the prisoner the £5 county note produced, and gave him £3 his stake, and the prisoner went away. Prosecutor subsequently, upon making inquiry, found the note was good for nothing. On taking the note of the prisoner he had said to prosecutor, "It is a Leicestershire note, but you find it all right. I have three or four more of them in my pocket." The prosecutor, however, found it "all wrong," and gave information to the police. Prisoner was consequently traced out and taken into custody.

Prisoner, who said if the note was bad he did not know it, was remanded till Wednesday next.

DANGER OF THE RAIL.—Robert Hutton was charged with an assault, in a third-class carriage of the Brighton Railway, on Friday.

Mr. Woolley said on Good Friday, on his return by the Brighton train to London, the prisoner, worse for liquor, was in the compartment with him, and several other passengers. At the time he was about entering the first round from Brighton the prisoner, who was with a heavy stick, commenced striking away right and left. Mr. Woolley said such a fellow does not know that his hat was broken in, and he was not strong, he would not doubt have sustained serious injuries. He said that he was struck by the prisoner, who had also struck another passenger, and they held him down, although he was very violent. On arriving at London Bridge he was given into custody. While a young prisoner, a passenger warned witness that he had a knife out, and he found himself cut in two or three places, but did not see the knife.

Mr. Mitchell, a clerk residing in the Borough, proved that he had been struck violently, and assisted to hold prisoner.

Other passengers proved that the prisoner's conduct was like that of a madman, and that he had not a knife out.

Prisoner said he had been most cruelly treated by the two young ladies, and he was not aware of the injuries inflicted on him.

Mr. Burdett told him that a sword him right. From the nature of the evidence of these two respectable witnesses it was clear that he had been with great violence in the railway carriage, and without the least provocation attacked two persons with a stick. The public travelling in the railways must be protected against such ruffians; therefore he suggested him 50s. or three weeks for the first assault, and 50s. or three weeks for the second, making altogether £5 or six weeks' hard labour.

ALLEGED HOTEL ROBBERY.—William James Stuart, aged twenty-five, described as an attorney, was charged on suspicion of stealing in the office of St. Andrew's, Holborn, three £5 Bank of England notes and £20 the money of guests of Mr. William Woods, of Furnival's Inn, Holborn.

Mr. Tyrwhitt inquired if the gentlemen who had lost the notes were at the bar.

Mr. Woods answered in the negative, and said he had not had the opportunity to communicate with them.

Mullineux, one of the City detectives, said he was in the house at the morning in question, but neither of the parties robbed had complained after the prisoner had left. He took the prisoner into custody on Thursday afternoon, after he was discharged from the Marylebone Police-court on a charge of being in Mr. Wall's, a city merchant's, room at the Great Western Hotel, for the purpose of committing a felony. The prisoner, when he was taken, did not offer any resistance, but said he would go anywhere his officers pleased to take him.

Mr. Tyrwhitt said he could not detain the prisoner, for at present it was no one in attendance who had lost, or who could swear to the loss. Wherever other evidence could be obtained the prisoner could be taken into custody again.

PASSPORTS FOR BRITISH RESIDENTS IN FRANCE.—"Galignani" states that British subjects residing in France, in places where there are no British consuls, can obtain as heretofore from the local authorities passports for travelling in the interior of the French dominions. The same authorities are empowered, in case of urgent necessity, to give passports to French subjects. The British Ambassador at Paris will also forward and pass on a general order of the British Government, provided the application is made in a certificate from the nearest mayor or other authority in the district, and is known to him as a British subject.

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